

Application No.: 10/607,784
Amendment Dated: June 18, 2008
Reply to Office Action of: March 18, 2008

MAT-8429US

Remarks/Arguments:

The present invention relates to a recording/playback apparatus. Specifically, the apparatus displays a time difference between a recorded signal and a playback signal.

On page 2, the Official Action rejects claims 1-3, 5-7, 9 and 11 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Akiba et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,542,695) in view of Yamamoto (U.S. Patent No. 7,043,135) and further in view of Kaminski et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,744,967). It is respectfully submitted, however, that the claims are patentable over the art of record for the reasons set forth below.

Akiba teaches a video signal recording/reproduction apparatus that is able to display the time difference between the video signal during reproduction and the video signal during recording. Yamamoto teaches an on screen display that displays time in units of hours, minutes and seconds. Furthermore, Kaminski teaches an on-screen display which displays time in the unit of hours.

Applicants' invention, as recited by claim 1, includes a feature which is neither disclosed nor suggested by the art of record, namely:

... displaying the time value in all of:

- a) a first time format displaying said time value in a unit of seconds exclusive of displaying said time value in a unit of minutes and a unit of hours,**
- b) a second time format displaying said time value in the unit of minutes exclusive of displaying said time value in the unit of seconds and the unit of hours, and**
- c) a third time format displaying said time value in the unit of hours exclusive of displaying said time value in the unit of seconds and the unit of minutes,**

wherein the OSD generator:

- i) displays the time value in the first time format if said time difference is less than one minute,**
- ii) displays the time value in the second time format if said time difference is less than 60 minutes and not less than 60 seconds, and**
- iii) displays the time value in the third time format if said time difference being not less than 60 minutes.**

Claim 1 relates to an on-screen display that displays the time difference between a playback signal and a recorded signal. Specifically, the on-screen display exclusively displays seconds if the time difference is less than one minute, exclusively displays a format of minutes if the time difference is less than 60 minutes but not less than 60 seconds, and exclusively displays a format of hours if the time difference is not less than 60 minutes. This feature is found in the originally filed application at page 6, lines 1-22 and furthermore, in Fig. 2. No new matter has been added.

On page 4, the Official Action states that both Akiba and Yamamoto fail to teach displaying the time format to "one of" a first time format or a second time format or a third time format. Page 4 of the Official Action goes on to state that Kaminski teaches a third time format wherein he displays the time in a unit of hours exclusive of seconds and minutes. For example, the Official Action cites Fig. 12 of Kaminski wherein the recorded length is displayed as three hours. Kaminski, however, does not teach displaying the time format **in all of** a first time format, a second time format and a third time format as recited in Applicants' amended claim 1.

Applicants' claim 1 is different than the art of record, because the on screen display is able to display the time value **in all of** a first, second and third time format based on the time difference ("displaying the time value in all of: a) a first time format ... b) a second time format ... c) a third time format ... if said time difference is last than one minute ... if said time difference is less than 60 minutes and

not less than 60 seconds, and ... if said time difference being not less than 60 minutes"). An example supporting Applicants' claim 1 is shown in Fig. 2. Specifically, if the time difference is less than one minute, the time would be displayed in seconds exclusive of minutes and hours (first time format). In another example, if the time difference is less than 60 minutes and not less than 60 seconds, the time is displayed in minutes (second time format) exclusive of seconds and hours. Finally, in a third example, if the time difference is not less than 60 minutes, the time will be displayed in hours exclusive of seconds and minutes (third time format). It is because Applicants' claim 1 is able to display the time value **in all of** the first time format, second time format and third time format, that claim 1 is patentable over the art of record.

It is because Applicants' include the feature of "*displaying the time value when all of: ... a first time format ... a second time format ... and a third time format ... if said time difference is less than one minute ... if said time difference is less than 60 minutes and not less than 60 seconds ... and if said time difference being not less than 60 minutes,*" that the following advantages are achieved. An advantage is the ability to change displayed time format depending on the difference between the recorded and played back signal, thus allowing a user to easily find out the time difference. Accordingly, for the reasons set forth above, claim 1 is patentable over the art of record.

Claims 5 and 11 have been amended in a similar manner to claim 1. Thus, claims 5 and 11 are also patentable over the art of record for the reasons set forth above.

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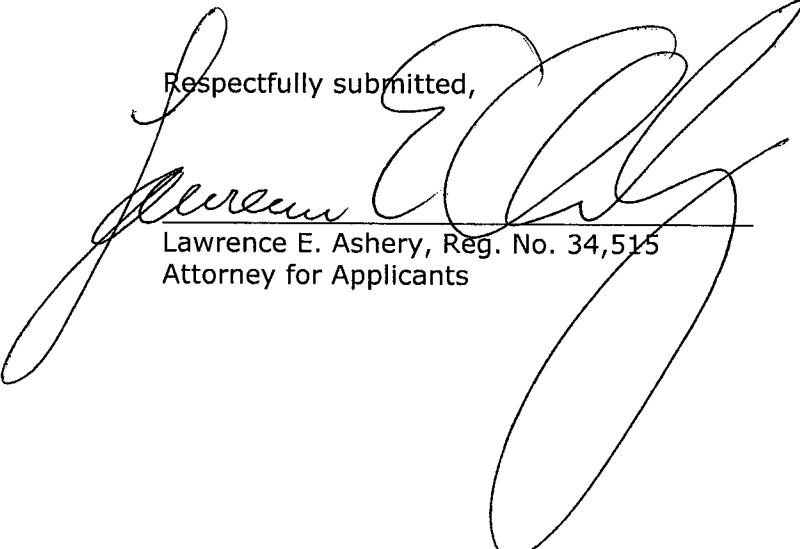
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Claims 2-4, 7 and 8 include all of the features of claim 1 from which they depend. Thus, claims 2-4, 7 and 8 are also patentable over the art of record for the reasons set forth above.

Claims 6, 9 and 10 include all of the features of claim 5 from which they depend. Thus, claims 6, 9 and 10 are also patentable over the art of record for the reasons set forth above.

In view of the amendments and arguments set forth above, the above-identified application is in condition for allowance, which action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,


Lawrence E. Ashery, Reg. No. 34,515
Attorney for Applicants

RAE/rae/so/fp

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P.O. Box 980
Valley Forge, PA 19482
(610) 407-0700

NM266401